

### Our On-Site Partners

- Association of Haitian Women (AFAB)
- Boston Area Rape Crisis Center
- Boston Police Department / Family Justice Division
  - Crimes Against Children Unit
  - Domestic Violence (DV) Unit
  - MA Human Trafficking Task Force
- Children's Advocacy Center (CAC) of Suffolk County
 

The CAC's On-site Partners:

  - The Child Witness to Violence Project of Boston Medical Center
  - MA Department of Social Services
  - MA Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Children
  - MA Pediatric Sexual Assault Nurse Examiner (PediSANE)
  - The Trauma Center at JRI
- Casa Myrna Vazquez
- Dress for Success Boston
- Finex House / Kim's Project
- Gay Men's Domestic Violence Project
- GLBT DV Attorney Program
- Greater Boston Legal Services
- Link Up Education Network / Noah's Ark Foster Care Program
- MA Alliance of Portuguese Speakers
- MA Department of Transitional Assistance DV Unit
- The Network/ La Red
- Suffolk County DA's Office / Family Protection and Sexual Assault Unit
- Victim Rights Law Center

### The FJC Survivor Fund

helps provide emergency assistance to individuals and families served at the Family Justice Center. Donations are accepted at the reception desk.

The next time you are at the FJC, please give whatever you can.

**Your support really matters to those who need it.**

**Thank you!**

## Deputy Superintendent Margot Hill Retires



*Deputy Superintendent Margot Hill leads the Family Justice Division of the Boston Police Department. The Deputy's office, and the Division's Crimes Against Children, Domestic Violence and Human Trafficking Units are all located at the FJC. Deputy Hill was one of the earliest and most passionate advocates for creating a Family Justice Center in Boston. Her leadership and commitment have been critical to bringing us to where we are today. As she prepares to retire from her law enforcement career and her leadership role at the FJC, Margot Hill shares these thoughts.*

Dear FJC community,

At the end of July, I will be retiring from a police career that has spanned three departments and twenty-seven years. Ironically, I began my policing around the corner from the FJC, at the Boston University Police Department. I then spent four years policing the transit system as a member of the MBTA police department.

I started with the Boston Police Department in the summer of 1987, and twenty years later, I'm ending this career in the neighborhood where it began.

The various departments and assignments I've had over the years have given me interesting perspective on the problems we deal with here at the FJC. Dating violence, sexual assault, child abuse and domestic abuse can be found on college campuses, in subways and train stations, and in all those areas of the city where I had the good fortune to be assigned.

I answered calls for rapes, for domestics, and for child abuse in Brighton, in Roxbury, and Mattapan; and I investigated them as a detective assigned to the Sexual Assault Unit, and as the Lieutenant in charge of the Domestic Violence Unit.

But I also investigated rapes while at Boston University and the MBTA Police, where I was the certified sexual assault investigator at both departments. These are crimes that know no boundaries; that can occur in every neighborhood and on every campus, and I've discovered that it's not the uniform of the officer that responds, it's what that officer brings to victims to help them get beyond what has happened to them.

Helping to bring a Family Justice Center to Boston has been the defining moment of my

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### Family Justice Center of Boston

Open for service

**Monday to Friday  
9:00 am –5:00 pm**

**989 Commonwealth Avenue  
Boston MA 02215**

**617 779-2100**

## FJC Partner Profile:

Anie Sergile, Association of Haitian Women in Boston

*"It is this type of collaboration that can assure that victims are being helped from every single angle; and it is a sign that we are working together as a community to end violence."*



**Organization:** The Association of Haitian Women in Boston/ Asosiyasyon Fanm Ayisyen nan Boston (AFAB)

**Name / Position:** Anie Sergile, Domestic Violence Civil Legal Advocate

### Organizational Mission/Vision

AFAB is a community-based grassroots organization, founded in August 1988, dedicated to empowering Haitian women and their children. We believe that everyone, regardless of race or sex, should have equal rights, and that women should have unlimited opportunity to develop as individuals, unhampered by social traditions. We promote women's access to social and economic opportunities in order to expand their knowledge and develop their abilities to be self-sufficient, independent, and confident.

### What do you do for the Association of Haitian Women in Boston (AFAB)?

I am a Domestic Violence Civil Legal Advocate. I provide counseling, support, referrals, translations, and safety planning to people in abusive relation-

ships. I assist victims of domestic violence who are seeking restraining orders at the Dorchester District Court. In addition, I coordinate services and refer clients to legal, medical, psychological or other needed services for themselves and their children.

### What motivates you to show up every day?

I think what motivates me the most is knowing that I will make a difference in the life of someone who may be a victim of domestic violence (DV) and/or sexual assault (SA). People who are victims of DV and/or SA need all kinds of support to help them find strength to overcome the challenges of past or current abusive relationships.

A lot of the time, victims are afraid to come forward, but when they come forward, I am very happy to see that they are seeking and taking legal actions to prevent these situations from reoccurring. Here at the Family Justice Center of Boston, by spreading the word about domestic violence and by speaking on behalf of victims of DV and/or SA, I can motivate and stimulate others in an effort to end violence at a community level. By doing so, I know that I will make a positive impact in their lives while making the community a healthier and safer environment in which to live.

### How has collaboration with other FJC partners helped you in your work?

My role at the FJC is to do intake, coordinate services, and make appropriate referrals for

victims to other FJC partners as well as other off-site agencies that provide human services.

Some of these FJC partners, such as Greater Boston Legal Services (GBLS) and the Victim Rights Law Center (VRLC) have helped me by working collaboratively. I often refer clients to FJC Partner agencies for services in other areas, such as immigration, divorce, child support and custody, shelter, medical advocacy and trauma evaluation. Dress for Success Boston is another source of support for clients.

While remaining in contact on a regular basis with clients that were referred to other agencies, I have been informed that FJC Partners have continued to provide great services and support them along the way. Thus, I value highly the collaboration that I have access to at the FJC. It is this type of collaboration that can assure that victims are being helped from every single angle; and it is a sign that we are working together as a community to end violence.

### What additional services would you like to see offered at the FJC and why?

Other services that I would like to see offered at the Family Justice Center are:

**A day care center for victims of domestic violence—** Having a low cost day care center for low income family who are victims of domestic violence at the FJC would greatly benefit them because a

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## Partner Profile: Anie Sergile (continued)

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lot of them do not have the financial support needed to help their families. A lot of them are unable to send their children to day care when they are supposed to because they cannot afford it.

How about public day care? Well, because it is public, a lot of people are taking advantage of it. Consequently, they tend to have long waiting lists. For this reason, having a full-time day care center at the FJC would be very helpful.

**Free information sessions about domestic violence**—I think that having regular, free information sessions about domestic violence will help educate the community. People need to be educated about signs of domestic violence and domestic violence

itself, as it is eating our society. A lot of people, especially in the Haitian community, do not know about DV or do not know that it is a crime, even while living it every day.

Some Haitian men think that it is all right to beat up their wives since this is what they did in Haiti. We need to raise awareness about domestic violence so that people will know it is a crime and to help prevent the crime from occurring or reoccurring.

**Employment outreach/ services and job training**—I think that we should develop some kind of employment services to help victims of domestic violence. These services should consist of employment outreach, in which we will help them write their resumes and find jobs. We should also have a job training center so that we can help them build more

skills.

**A food pantry**—Daily or weekly food pantry services will ensure that victims of domestic violence can eat with their children because a lot of them do not have food to eat at home because they can't afford to buy it.

### Anie Sergile

**works on-site at the FJC  
Tuesdays and Thursdays**

**9:00 am-5:00 pm.**

**She can be reached at  
(617) 779-2151 and at  
asergile@afab-kafanm.org**

**Association of Haitian  
Women in Boston:  
www.afab-kafanm.org**

## New FJC Partner: Assistant District Attorney Delayne Austin



*The Suffolk County District Attorney's Office is one of the founding partners of the Family Justice Center of Boston. An Assistant District Attorney is*

*available on-site to talk with clients about court cases and to participate in forensic interviews coordinated by the Children's Advocacy Center. Victim Witness Advocates can answer questions about the criminal justice process, restraining orders, victim rights information, safety planning and referrals to community resources. We asked our newest FJC partner, Assistant DA Delayne Austin, to introduce herself to the FJC community.*

I arrived at the FJC in mid-June as a new Suffolk County Assistant District Attorney, and I am excited to be here and to have the opportunity to be a member of this community. I spent the last two years as an Assistant DA in Queens County, New York City, and am thrilled to be back

in Boston where I previously spent seven years as a student.

During law school I interned with the Child Abuse Unit of the Suffolk County District Attorney's Office, and it took me very little time to realize this was the job I wanted and the area of the law on which I wanted to focus. I can't think of a more compelling reason to get up and go to work every day than to help protect children against the kinds of abuse that bring them to our attention.

I have already enjoyed meeting many of you, and I am looking forward to working with, and learning from all of the agencies represented here at the FJC to help continue to ensure the success of the relationship between the DA's Office and its partners.

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## Deputy Superintendent Margot Hill Retires

*"Helping to bring a Family Justice Center to Boston has been the defining moment of my 27 years in policing, and the accomplishment I'm most proud of in my career."*

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27 years in policing, and the accomplishment I'm most proud of in my career.

It was a difficult undertaking; and those of you who helped to make that dream come true shared in the most intricate and complex undertaking I know I've ever experienced. But we all understand that the most difficult work is often the most rewarding, and I truly believe we are off to a great start here at the FJC to offering survivors of these horrific crimes new and better ways to get beyond the pain and suffering, and move forward in their lives, while holding their offenders accountable.

Collaboration with our community partners has made a difference to victims, and I hope more partners will be attracted to the economically efficient model of sharing space and helping survivors together in these days of scarce resources.

The Boston Police Domestic Violence Unit, the Crimes Against Children Unit, and the Human Trafficking Project are all new entities of the Boston Police Department that together will respond to nearly 15,000 reported incidents in 2007.

A burden that great requires collaboration to be addressed effectively, and I want to take this opportunity to thank our partners in the FJC who will make addressing those survivors' needs possible. Most of all I'd like to thank Mayor Menino and Suffolk County District Attorney Dan Conley, without whose leadership this building would never have opened its doors.

I'd also like to thank those of you who have shared the dream from the beginning—and who continue to work so hard to keep it going: former Site Operations Director Dee Kennedy; Dave Deakin and John Towle of the District Attorney's Office; Curt Rogers of the Gay Men's Domestic Violence Project; Beth Leventhal of the Network/La Red; Sue Vickers of the Victim Rights Law Center; Carline Desire of The Association of Haitian Women in Boston; Sherry Smith of Greater Boston Legal Services; Gina Scaramella of the Boston Area Rape Crisis Center; Cherie Jimenez of Finex House; Kara Holmquist of Link Up Education Network; Susan Goldfarb and all the staff of the Children's Advocacy Center; Enith Levine, Nancy Schneider, Kim Todd and Jacqui Budd from Dress for Success

Boston; Casa Myrna Vasquez; the MA Alliance of Portuguese Speakers, and of course, our great staff here at the FJC: Richard Amory, Verlana Morales, Nancy Reyes and Ellena Haile.

And I would be remiss if I didn't mention the brave souls who volunteered for the Board of Directors, especially my dear friends Curt Dietrich, Peter Brown and Jolene Sarkis. Your willingness to take a chance on something new has made all the difference in the world.

I hope when I come back to visit in the next few years I'll see more partners on the first floor, more collaboration between floors, a medical unit, and a dynamic Executive Director who can ring a few bells throughout the city. I want to be invited to FJC fundraisers organized by a cohesive, strong and tree-shaking Board of Directors.

But most of all I want to hear from the mouths of survivors that the FJC is a place to go to get help, and that people all over Boston know that, appreciate that, and work together to make it happen.

Best of luck in the future, and keep me on those invite lists!

—Margot Hill



## Our Mission

The Family Justice Center (FJC) of Boston fosters collaboration in service to victims of child abuse, domestic violence and sexual assault. We provide a safe and welcoming environment where individuals and families benefit from the availability of services offered by diverse nonprofit and governmental partner organizations. We are committed to complementing and enhancing the health of victim service organizations throughout Boston. As a hub of cooperative activity, the FJC facilitates continuous learning and serves as a resource center for professional development. We strive to coordinate violence intervention and prevention services that are culturally responsive and accessible to all victims.

## Our Vision

**The Family Justice Center of Boston envisions justice for victims of child abuse, domestic violence and sexual assault.**

### **Justice for victims will mean that:**

- ◇ Police, prosecutors and service providers collaborate closely and offer coordinated responses which minimize additional trauma and promote the safety, dignity, well-being and rights of all.
- ◇ Law enforcement and criminal justice practices reflect a deep understanding of the dynamics of child abuse, domestic violence and sexual assault.
- ◇ Useful information about available services and support reaches everyone who needs it.
- ◇ Governmental and community-based organizations are culturally responsive; provide appropriate, accessible and equitable services to all who need them; and are accountable to the communities that they serve.
- ◇ There are no gaps in service or “cracks in the system”.
- ◇ Victims are respected and are never blamed for the violence and abuse.
- ◇ Child abuse, domestic violence and sexual assault are not socially tolerated.
- ⇒ **Rates of child abuse, domestic violence and sexual assault are reduced until we are able to stop these crimes entirely.**

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## Events and Opportunities

### Getting to the FJC

The FJC is located near the intersection of Commonwealth Avenue and Babcock St. in Brighton.

**Parking:** Metered parking is available. Ask about special parking for victims at the front desk.

**By the "T":** Take the Green Line "B" train (Boston College) to either the Pleasant Street or the Babcock Street stop (just past BU's Agganis Arena); both are less than one block from the Family Justice Center.

**On the MBTA Bus:** Take any of the following bus routes to Kenmore Square: 8, 57, 60, 65, 8A. Board the 57 Bus towards Watertown Yard. Get off at the Brighton Avenue Stop (by Shaws Supermarket). Walk 2 blocks east to 989 Comm. Ave.

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### Children's Advocacy Center of Suffolk County Seminar Series

#### Activating Your Community to Prevent Bullying

**Rebecca Mooney, M.Ed.,** Executive Director, Melrose Alliance Against Violence

How can all segments of a community work together to prevent bullying among youth? Ms. Mooney will share her experience and expertise implementing a bullying prevention program at the middle school level in Melrose, a partnership between her community-based agency, the Melrose Alliance Against Violence and the Melrose Public Schools. The seminar will provide a theoretical overview of the issue as well as a step-by-step guide to implementing a program in your community, including:

- The framework for an effective bullying prevention program
- Helping aggressive youth change
- Supporting targets of bullying
- Activating bystanders
- Strategies for involving parents, youth and the community

Resources for additional information, including books, web sites, trainings, videos, curricula and assemblies will be provided.

**THURSDAY July 12, 2007**

**9:30 am – 11:00 am**

**Northeastern University,  
360 Huntington Avenue  
\*Dodge Hall, Room 450\***

Take the Green Line to Northeastern or the Orange Line to Ruggles  
Parking Available at The Renaissance Park Garage, 788 Columbus Ave.

For additional information, contact  
the Children's Advocacy Center (CAC)  
617 779-2146 or cac@suf.state.ma.us

Co-sponsored by Center for Community Health, Education,  
Research and Services (CCHERS)

**The CAC Seminar Series is offered free of charge and  
no pre-registration is required!**

### THE HAITIAN ROUNDTABLE ON DOMESTIC VIOLENCE

#### Annual Domestic Violence Forum

**August 18**

**Catholic Charities/  
Haitian Multi-Service Center  
Auditorium**

**185 Columbia Road,  
Dorchester, MA**

For more information or to RSVP,  
call Carmelle Bonhommetre  
at 617-287-0096

### FJC Staff Directory

To speak with an FJC Partner organization or for general information, please call the main number: (617) 779-2100. Our reception staff, **Ellena Haile** and **Verlana Morales**, will be glad to help you.

For information about the FJC's child care service, please contact: **Nancy Reyes, Child Care Specialist** (617) 779-2143

To make a financial or in-kind contribution to the FJC, for inquiries related to outreach, communications or volunteer / internship opportunities, and for general information, please contact: **Richard Amory, Assistant Development Director** (617) 779-2152  
richard.amory@cityofboston.gov

To inquire about potential partnerships, use of the FJC facility and other opportunities for collaboration, please contact: **Susan Goldfarb, Interim Director** (617) 779-2149